



Table of Contents

Missouri Women's Council

Featured Board Member

Page 2

Economic News

Page 3

Women's History Month

Page 4

**UMSL Women's
Leadership Council;
MOSourceLink; MWC Directory**

Page 5-7

Trainings & Job Fairs

Page 8-9

Upcoming Events

Page 10

Scholarship Opportunities

Page 11

**In Every Issue:
Business Resources
Women Resources**

Page 12-13



April 2011 Women's Edition

Mission statement:

"The mission of the Missouri Women's Council is to promote the economic success of Missouri women by connecting them to information and resources"



Jeremiah "Jay" Nixon
Governor



David Kerr
Director
Department of Economic Development

Mission statement:

"The mission of the Missouri Women's Council is to promote the economic success of Missouri women by connecting them to information and resources"

**Missouri Women's Council
Board Members
2011**

Board Chair

Michelle J. Word, Kansas City

Janet M. Bandera, O'Fallon

Christine J. Bierman, St. Louis

Nicole Colbert-Botchway, St. Louis

Melodee Colbert-Kean, Joplin

Jacqueline Coleman, Jefferson City

Rep. Marsha Haefner, St. Louis

Rep. Genise Monticello, St. Louis

Norma Nisbet, St. Louis

Catherine Crum Thompson, Jefferson City

Karen Thornton, Sunrise Beach

Valerie White, St. Charles

Donayle Whitmore-Smith, St. Louis



Featured Board Member
Representative Marsha
Haefner
St. Louis, MO

Rep. Marsha Haefner represents part of St. Louis County (District 100) in the Missouri House of Representatives. She was elected to her first two-year term in November 2010.

In addition to her legislative duties, Rep. Haefner owns and operates Haefner's Greenhouses.

Rep. Haefner is a member of the St. Paul's United Church of Christ where she serves on her church council and is a certified Steven's Minister.

Rep. Haefner has served on the South County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors for five years and the Executive Board for 2 years. Rep. Haefner and her husband were named as the South County Citizens of the Year in 2003.

Rep. Haefner is a 1969 graduate of Webster Groves High School. She attended Meramec Community College and received her B.S. in Parks and Recreation from the University of Missouri - Columbia.

Born in St. Louis, Rep. Haefner currently resides in Oakville with her husband, Greg. They have three children, Melissa, Mark and Lauren.



Economic News You Can Use



[SBA Announces Grant Funding to Increase Contracting Opportunities for Small Businesses under New Pilot Program](#)

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is accepting grant funding proposals from eligible and well-established national organizations interested in providing training, guidance, counseling, mentoring and procurement assistance to small businesses in teaming arrangements, which may be in the form of a joint venture or prime and subcontractor relationship, under its new Small Business Teaming Pilot program. Under this new program, the SBA expects to make 10 to 20 grant awards in the range of \$250,000-\$500,000 totaling up to \$5 million for fiscal year 2011. [Read more...](#)

[Missouri SBA Women-Owned Small Business Rule to Expand Access to Federal Contracting Opportunities](#)

New program will be available in early 2011 for small, women-owned firms
With the publication last week of a final rule in the Federal Register, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) will begin implementation of its [Women-Owned Small Business](#) (WOSB) contracting program. The agency expects the program to be available for WOSBs in early 2011. The rule is part of the Obama Administration's overall commitment to expanding opportunities for small businesses to compete for federal contracts, in particular those owned by women, socially and economically disadvantaged persons and veterans. [Click Here for more information](#)

[Governor Nixon's Small Business Credit Initiative](#)

Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon conducted a series of three roundtable discussions around the state (in St. Peters, Springfield and Jackson) in early April with MO SBTDC and MO PTAC business clients. The discussions coincided with the Governor's announcement of details about \$27 million in innovative loans that are available to help Missouri small businesses create jobs and grow. Applications for these loans are available at [MO.gov](#)

[DED releases March 2011 State Jobs Report](#)

Labor conditions improved substantially in Missouri in March while unemployment rate dropped, according to data released today by the Missouri Department of Economic Development (DED). The state added more than 24,000 new jobs during the month, while Missouri's unemployment rate fell to 9.1 percent, down by three-tenths of a point from the February figure, on a seasonally-adjusted basis. [Read more...](#)

[Governor Nixon's Small Business Loan Program](#)

Through Gov. Nixon's Small Business Loan Program, Missouri businesses with 15 employees or fewer may apply for loans of between \$2,500 and \$50,000. The loans are typically repaid over a ten-year term and at a low interest rate of 3 percent. Missouri businesses wishing to apply for one of the loans can go online to [www.ded.mo.gov/MOloan/index.htm](#) to download an application.



Women's History Month March 2011



**Governor Jay Nixon presents a proclamation to the
Missouri Women's Council for Women's History Month**

Missouri Women's Council Press Release for Women's History Month

The stories of women's achievements are vital to the foundation of our history and learning about these accomplishments provides a tremendous source of strength. Gaining knowledge of women's history provides significant role models needed to handle the relentless challenges of the 21st century.

The theme for Women's History Month 2011, "Our History is Our Strength," honors the pivotal themes from previous years, each a different aspect of women's achievements – from ecology to art; from sports to politics.

Each year, March is designated as National Women's History Month to ensure that the history of American women will be recognized and celebrated in schools, workplaces and communities throughout the country. The stories of women's historic achievements present an expanded view of the complexity and contradiction of living a full and purposeful life.

In honor of Women's History Month, Lisa Althoff, the executive director of the Missouri Women's Council, encouraged local citizens and organizations to honor women within their own communities and organizations who have exhibited extraordinary strength in making their communities a better place.

"Women have provided incredible strength and tenacity in the history of our nation. Honoring the stories and achievements of the women in our communities, families and organizations is an admirable way in celebrating women's history." Althoff said.



University of Missouri—St. Louis

Women's Leadership Council

Mission: The goal of the University of Missouri –St. Louis Women’s Leadership Council (WLC) is to raise awareness of and grow the university’s women-focused programs. These programs educate women to become effective leaders in the workplace and the community and provide them with the skills necessary to succeed in the St. Louis region and beyond.

How the Initiative Works: WLC is comprised of women professionals, community leaders, faculty and staff who work together to identify unique opportunities for activities, collaboration and synergies to build an exemplary community of services that assist women and men in preparing for their futures and realizing their potential.

Key Programs

Sue Shear Institute for Women in Public Life

www.umsl.edu/~iwpl/index.html

Vivian Eveloff, Founder and Director

Founded in 1996, the Sue Shear Institute assists women in developing the skills necessary to succeed as full participants within the public sector, serving in elected and appointed office as well as employed policy makers.

College of Nursing

www.umsl.edu/divisions/nursing/

Dr. Juliann Sebastian, Dean and Professor

The College of Nursing, founded in 1983, shapes the future of the nursing practice through education, research and service. This is accomplished through innovative bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral programs and by working with strategic partners to generate and use knowledge to improve health.

Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity

www.umsl.edu/services/oeo

*Deborah Burris, Director and Chief Diversity Officer,
Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity*

Women in the Arts promotes educational, creative and archival support for the work of women in the arts both in historical and contemporary contexts.

Institute for Women’s Gender Studies

www.umsl.edu/~iwgs/index.html

Dr. Kathy Gentile, Director and Associate Professor

The Institute for Women’s and Gender Studies (IWGS) is an interdisciplinary academic program that offers undergraduate and graduate certificates, promotes feminist and gender scholarship, and sponsors events related to women’s issues. IWGS was founded in 1978.

Women’s Networking Series and Women’s University Mentoring Project

www.umsl.edu/divisions/business/execlead/index.html

Dr. Malaika Horne, Director, Executive Leadership Consortium

The Women’s Networking Series is an annual event that enhances the knowledge and skills of female students who are learning the importance of networking. The Women’s University Mentoring Project (WUMP) empowers students to realize their talents and potential. Women professionals volunteer to mentor and meet with a student on a monthly basis.

Women in Arts

www.umsl.edu/~wia/

Dr. Barbara Harbach, Professor of Music

Women in the Arts promotes educational, creative and archival support for the work of women in the arts both in historical and contemporary contexts.

School of School Work

www.umsl.edu/~socialwk/

Dr. Lois Pierce, Director and Professor

The School of Social Work, which became fully accredited in 1979, provides accessible, affordable and high quality social work degree programs at the bachelor’s and master’s levels to a diverse and nontraditional student body.

Professorship for Developing Women Leaders and Entrepreneurs in International Business

Dr. Janet Murray, E. Desmond Lee Professor for Developing Women Leaders and Entrepreneurs in International Business and Professor of Marketing

Through research, teaching and service, the holder of this chaired professorship identifies and develops best practices to support the advancement of women leaders and entrepreneurs in international and domestic business.

MOSourceLink

MOSourceLink's mission is to help small businesses across the state of Missouri grow and succeed. MOSourceLink provides small businesses with free, easy to access help.

What does MOSourceLink do?

MOSourceLink connects aspiring, emerging and established small businesses to a wide network of business-building resource organizations in Missouri. MOSourceLink acts as a referral source, provides small businesses and entrepreneurs with free, easy links to the right resources at the right time.

Is there a fee involved in using MOSourceLink's services?

No, there is no cost for either the entrepreneurs or the nonprofit organizations that make up our resource network. This ensures your objective, unbiased information about the organization that can best meet your needs.

What kind of services do you offer?

Missouri offers a wealth of resources to help start a business or to expand an existing business.

These services range from business plan and marketing assistance to website development, small loan programs, how to get contacts with the government or large corporations or make it through various City Hall regulations and zoning issues.

The complete list of services is very long, but the following categories include all the services:

- Advocacy & Public Policy
- Financial Resources & Assistance
- Business Planning
- Franchising
- Freight & Distribution
- Internship Programs & Services
- Legal Services
- Management Issues & Training
- Marketing
- Nonprofit Development
- Product Development
- Selling to the Government & Large Corporations
- Technical Assistance
- Import & Export Assistance
- Libraries & Research Organizations
- Manufacturing, High Tech & Life Sciences Development
- Networking Organizations
- Office, Laboratory & Meeting Space
- Regulatory Compliance
- Tax Services
- Training

Connecting Small Business Owners

MOSourceLink connects small business owners with a network of nonprofit resource organizations that provide business-building services. We facilitate the linking of these resource organizations to one another and to established, emerging and start-up small businesses throughout the region.

Contact MOSourceLink by phone at 1-866-870-6500.

You will speak to an MOSourceLink representative, who gathers information about your business and your needs.

MOSourceLink will guide you to the business resources that can best help you.

Your MOSourceLink contact follows up with you to assure service and satisfaction

Online Resource Search Tool

The Resource Navigator[®] allows you to do your own customized online search for the network resources in your area that can meet your needs. You can use the Resource Navigator in addition to talking to a real person at MOSourceLink, or you can begin your search with the Resource Navigator.



Women's Resource Guide

Women's Resource Guide

The mission of the Missouri Women's Council is to promote the economic success of Missouri women by connecting them to information and resources.

Missouri Women's Council Resource Guide:

The Missouri Women's Council is pleased to offer the updated "Women's Resource Guide." The Women's Resource Guide" is a directory of programs, services and websites related to issues of interest for women. The guide serves as an essential resources for Missouri women, those who are establishing a business, seeking education assistance and opportunities, or those who wish to find more suitable careers. This guide contains various listings to assist the women of Missouri, including business organizations, education institutions, women's organizations, and government agencies serving women in the business arena. Although this is not an exhaustive list of resources, this guide will continue to expand and grow in support of the women in Missouri.

To download a copy of the Women's Resource Guide, please visit [http://www.womenscouncil.org/documents/ResourceGuide\(April2011\).pdf](http://www.womenscouncil.org/documents/ResourceGuide(April2011).pdf)



Business Trainings and Job Fairs

May 3rd, 2011

Understanding Financial Statements

Location: Springfield

[Click Here for more information](#)

May 3rd, 2011

Business Performance: Measure, Manage, and Succeed

Location: Sedalia

[Click Here for more information](#)

May 3rd, 2011

Getting Results With Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn

Location: Joplin

[Click Here for more information](#)

May 4th, 2011

Exploring Entrepreneurship Start Up Class

Location: Columbia

[Click Here for more information](#)

May 4th, 2011

Predicting Future Cash Needs

Location: Jefferson City

[Click Here for more information](#)

May 5th, 2011

Winning Government Contracts

Location: Kansas City

[Click Here for more information](#)

May 6th, 2011

Marketing Communications

Location: St. Louis

[Click Here for more information](#)

May 6th, 2011

JOB FAIR: St. Charles Community College

Location: St. Charles

[Click Here for more information](#)

May 10th, 2011

SBA Loans: Keys to Your Financial Success

Location: St. Louis

[Click Here for more information](#)

May 11th, 2011

Successful Social Media Marketing

Location: Carthage

[Click Here for more information](#)

May 11th, 2011

Promote & Optimize Your Website

Location: Joplin

[Click Here for more information](#)

May 11th, 2011

Starting a Business

Location: Kansas City

[Click Here for more information](#)

May 11th, 2011

Pricing for Success

Location: Jefferson City

[Click Here for more information](#)

May 12th, 2011

Basics of Writing a Business Plan

Location: St. Joseph

[Click Here for more information](#)

May 12th, 2011

Attracting Research and Development Funding through SBIR/STTR Grants

Location: St. Louis

[Click Here for more information](#)

May 13th, 2011

Small Business Roundtable

Location: St. Louis

[Click Here for more information](#)

May 13th, 2011

Starting a Business: The First Steps

Location: St. Louis

[Click Here for more information](#)

May 13th, 2011

Quickbooks Pro Introductory

Location: Kansas City

[Click Here for more information](#)

May 17th, 2011

Predicting Future Cash Needs

Location: Springfield

[Click Here for more information](#)

May 17th, 2011

How to Write a Successful Business Plan

Location: Joplin

[Click Here for more information](#)

May 17th, 2011

Technology Entrepreneur

Speakers Program

Location: Kansas City

[Click Here for more information](#)

May 19th, 2011

Winning Government Contracts

Location: Blue Springs

[Click Here for more information](#)





Business Trainings and Job Fairs

May 19th, 2011

Tracking Cash Flow for Business Decisions

Location: Columbia

[Click Here for more information](#)

May 19th, 2011

The Basics of Writing a Business Plan

Location: Perryville

[Click Here for more information](#)

May 20th, 2011

Starting and Managing a Business

Location: Warrensburg

[Click Here for more information](#)

May 24th, 2011

Marketing Your Business

Location: St. Joseph

[Click Here for more information](#)

May 26th, 2011

Attracting Research and Development Funding through SBIR/STTR Grants

Location: St. Louis

[Click Here for more information](#)

May 31st, 2011

Understanding Financial Statements

Location: St. Joseph

[Click Here for more information](#)

June 1st, 2011

Social Media Marketing for Small Business

Location: Mexico

[Click Here for more information](#)

June 1st, 2011

Winning Government Contracts

Location: Kansas City

[Click Here for more information](#)

June 1st, 2011

Winning Government Contracts

Location: St. Joseph

[Click Here for more information](#)

June 2nd, 2011

Basics to Writing a Business Plan

Location: Ft. Leonard Wood

[Click Here for more information](#)

June 2nd, 2011

How to Write Winning SBIR/STTR

Grants fro NIH

Location: Kansas City

[Click Here for more information](#)

June 2nd, 2011

Starting a Small Business

Location: Joplin

[Click Here for more information](#)

June 3rd, 2011

Pricing Products or Services

Location: St. Louis

[Click Here for more information](#)

June 8th, 2011

Building the Ultimate Business Plan

Location: Springfield

[Click Here for more information](#)

June 9th, 2011

Business Performance: Measure,

Manage, and Succeed

Location: Jefferson City

[Click Here for more information](#)

June 9th, 2011

Starting a Business

Location: St. Joseph

[Click Here for more information](#)

June 9th, 2011

Building the Ultimate Business Plan

Location: Springfield

[Click Here for more information](#)

June 10th, 2011

Starting and Managing a Business

Location: Lees Summit

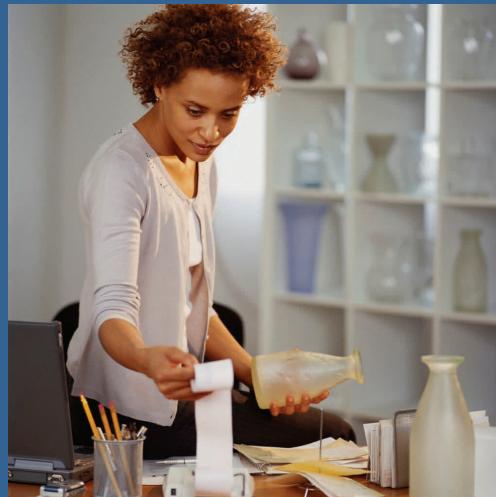
[Click Here for more information](#)

June 13th, 2011

How to Write a Successful Business Plan

Location: Joplin

[Click Here for more information](#)





Upcoming Events and Programs

Business Writing

May 6th, 2011

Kansas City, MO

Today's fast paced, technology-rich business environment requires excellent writing skills. For many people, the day is filled with email messages, reports and letters to customers or constituents. Poorly written documents can produce confusion, conflict, or even losses of productivity. This one-day workshop is designed to help you become a more precise, skilled business writer. Discover how to compose clear, accurate, and grammatically correct messages to improve your ability to communicate effectively. Presented by: Rae Lee, Business Trainer and Consultant, Missouri Training Institute

<http://mti.missouri.edu/courses/mc-business-writing/index.php>

Celebrate NAWBO Chapter Honorees

May 9th, 2011

Sponsor: National Association of Women Business Owners

St. Louis, MO

[Please click here for more information](#)

12th Annual U.S. Department of Energy Small Business Conference & Expo

May 10th, 2011—May 12th, 2011

Sponsor: U.S. Department of Energy
Kansas City, MO

<http://smallbusinessconference.energy.gov/>

Ewomen Network Accelerated Networking Event

May 13th, 2011

Chesterfield

8 Steps to Building a Wildly Successful Business Learn insider secrets from Susan Solovic, a sought-after keynote speaker having spoken to approximately half a million small business owners worldwide. As a small business contributor for ABC News, her segment "Minding Your Business with Susan Solovic" airs on the network's "Good Money" show. Her in depth knowledge and background on building businesses will help you learn the 8 steps to building a wildly successful business.

<https://events.ewomenetwork.com/event/calendar.php?lid=27>

Deadlock Breaking Negotiations Seminar

(Moving from Confrontation to Collaboration, even after they've said No)

May 25th, 2011

St. Louis, MO

Sponsor: ISM-St. Louis

There are two different approaches to negotiating. One holds that negotiating is what we do to defend our positions, prove we are right, and win. The other holds that negotiating is what we do to meet both mutual and differing needs, and create mutual understanding and acceptance so that both sides walk away satisfied. Learn 4 typical causes of confrontation and 4 ways to move to collaboration. Learn counters to tactics that are designed to put negotiations at a disadvantage. Negotiation Flow Analysis. Discussions of Deadlock Causes & Breakers.

[Please click here for more information](#)

53rd Annual Governor's Conference on Economic Development

September 21-23, 2011

University Plaza Hotel & Convention Center
Springfield, MO

<http://www.ded.mo.gov/Conference/GovConference.aspx>



Scholarships

Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc.

The Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc. has announced that applications for six of its 2011 scholarships are available online.

Scholarships are offered to students through the various CBC members' district offices and are available to high school seniors or full-time undergraduate, graduate or professional school students with a minimum 2.5 grade point average.

Application deadlines range from Thursday, April 14th through Wednesday, June 1st, 2011, depending on the scholarship.

To apply, interested students should submit their application materials online to <http://www.cbcfinc.org/scholarships>. All packages should include:

- A completed application form
- Personal statement (500 words or more) that addresses all four of the topics listed on the application in one essay
- Letter of acceptance from intended institution
- Two letters of recommendation (i.e. one from a community or public service leader). Email addresses will be requested of each recommender.
- One-page resume listing extracurricular activities, honors, employment, community service and special skills.
- A recent photograph in cap & gown or professional dress (No group or social photos)
- Official high school or college transcripts are to be mailed to the following address, with the name of the scholarship the student is applying for as the addressee: Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc., 1720 Massachusetts Ave., NW Washington, D.C. 20036

Scholarships assist students in a variety of academic concentrations, including environmental studies to health, performing arts and visual arts.

Society of Women Engineers Scholarship

The SWE Scholarship Program provides financial assistance to women admitted to accredited baccalaureate or graduate programs, in preparation for careers in engineering, engineering technology and computer science. In 2010, SWE disbursed 170 new and renewed scholarships valued at almost \$500,000.

SWE provides one application for sophomores through graduate students and one application for freshmen. Applicants complete an application and are considered for all scholarships that they are eligible for. The application for sophomores through graduate students has now closed and the application for freshmen opens March 1st and close May 16th at 5:00 p.m. central time.

For more information, please visit,
<https://scholarships.swe.org/applications/login.asp>



For more information regarding scholarships or grants available for higher education, please visit the Missouri Department of Higher Education at <http://dhe.mo.gov/ppc/grants/>



In Every Issue

BUSINESS RESOURCES

Missouri Business Portal

An online resource as a single point of entry for business registration, filings, licenses, and permits for doing business in the State of Missouri. [Click here for more information.](#)

Missouri Business Development Programs

The Missouri Small Business & Technology Development Center (MO SBTDC) successfully assists more than 10,000 businesses with business start-up and training workshops. Visit www.missouribusiness.net.

Missouri Catalog of State Assistance Programs

Provides detailed information about state grants, loans and assistance programs and how to apply for them. [Click here for more information.](#)

Missouri Department of Economic Development Programs for Business

The Missouri Department of Economic Development offers a listing of programs for businesses. For a full listing, please [click here](#).

Missouri Enterprise Business Assistance Centers (MEBAC)

MEBAC's mission is to help small businesses enhance productivity, expand production, increase sales and improve profitability. Visit www.missourienterprise.org or call toll free at (800) 956-2682.

Missouri Linked Deposit Program

The Big Missouri Linked Deposit Program is administered through the state treasurer's office to enable financial institutions to make low-cost loans to businesses and farms to create jobs and help Missouri's economy grow. Visit www.treasurer.mo.gov/LinkedDeposit.asp.

MOSourceLink

MOSourceLink connects small business owners with a network of nonprofit resource organizations that provide business-building services. Visit www.mosourcelink.com or call toll-free at (866) 870-6500.

Missouri Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (MO PTAC)

MO PTAC's mission is to assist businesses—including small, disadvantaged and women owned firms—in obtaining federal, state and local government contracts. Visit www.missouribusiness.net/PTAC

Missouri Small Business Regulatory Fairness Board (SBRFB)

The SBRFB provides a key interface between state regulatory agencies and affected small businesses. For more information, please [click here](#).

Missouri Small Business and Technology Assistance Centers (MO SBTDC)

MO SBTDC is focused on strengthening the technological competitiveness of Missouri's businesses. Visit www.missouribusiness.net/fast.

Missouri Women's Council

Provides information and resources regarding business, education and career development to Missouri's women. Visit www.womenscouncil.org or call toll free at (877) 426-9284.

MoFAST: SBIR/STTR Program

Help for entrepreneurs and small businesses seeking federal funding for technology and life sciences businesses, products, research and development. Visit www.mofast.net.

Office of Administration–Office of Equal Opportunity

OEO's mission works to assist women and minorities in developing opportunities to contract with the state, economically empowering traditionally underserved communities and improving the overall fiscal vitality of the State of Missouri. Visit www.oa.mo.gov/oeo or call toll free (877) 259-2963.

SBA– Small Business Administration

The SBA links entrepreneurs with resources, services and support specifically designed for small business needs. Visit www.sba.gov or call toll free at (800) U ASK SBA.





In Every Issue-

Women's Resources

National Association of Women Business Owners

NAWBO is a dues-based national organization representing the interests of all women entrepreneurs in all industries. Membership is open to sole proprietors, partners and corporate owners with day-to-day management responsibility.

Phone: (800) 556-2926

Website: www.nawbo.org

National Women's Business Council

The Council's mission is to promote initiatives, policies and programs designed to support women's business enterprises at all stages of development in the public and private sector marketplaces, from start-up to success to significance.

Website: www.nwbc.gov

eWomenNetwork, Inc.

eWomenNetwork, Inc. is committed to helping women and their businesses achieve, succeed and thrive in the new economy. Their goal is to help female business owners and professionals achieve their goals.

Website: www.eWomenNetwork.com

Women Impacting Public Policy, Inc. (WIPP)

A national nonpartisan public policy organization that advocates for and on behalf of women and minorities in business in the legislative process of our national, creating economic opportunities and building bridges and alliances to other small business organizations.

Website: www.wipp.org

Career Education Coordinators

Network of professionals focusing on nontraditional careers as well as providing information and expertise in career awareness, exploration and planning for various audiences.

Website: www.missouricareereducation.org

Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC)

Dedicated to advancing the success of Corporate Members, certified women's business enterprises, and government entities in partnership with its Regional Partner Organizations (RPOs)

Website: www.wbenc.org

Missouri Child Care Resource and Referral Network

The Missouri Women's Council recognizes that often times women in business and workforce may encounter barriers accessing quality child care. This organization coordinates the activities of the eight child care resource and referral agencies that serve all 115 counties in Missouri.

Website: www.mocrrn.org

Women's Business Development Center

The largest women's business assistance center in the United States. Nationally and internationally recognized for responsive, innovative, and effective programs and advocacy efforts. Delivers business services and financial assistance to empower women towards entrepreneurship and economic self-sufficiency.

Website: www.wbdc.org

Winning Women

Winning Women works to foster economic growth and provide leadership in developing and supporting our future workforce. Education and mentoring opportunities focus on traditional and non-traditional occupations and apprenticeships in the private and public sectors. Website: www.winningwomen.net

Caring Communities

A "partnership" that enables community and school leaders to define priorities and agendas based on each community's needs, assets and vision. By developing community-based supports and services, the aim is to enhance the well-being of children, which is inseparable from the well-being of their families and the stability and economic viability of the communities where they live.

Website: www.mofact.org

WPO Women Presidents' Organization

The WPO is a non-profit membership organization for women presidents of multimillion-dollar companies. Members of the WPO take part in professionally facilitated peer advisory groups in order to coax the 'genius out of the group' and grow their businesses to the next level.

Website: www.womenpresidentsorg.com

Missouri Career Centers

Located in communities across the state and represent a unique partnership of employment and training organizations that reflect the specific needs in each local community. These resource areas are equipped with computers, fax machines, and telephones that operate similarly to a public library.

Website: www.missouricareersource.com





MISSOURI WOMEN'S COUNCIL



The Missouri Women's Council was established in 1985 by the State's 83rd General Assembly to identify and address issues affecting the economic and employment status of women in Missouri.

The first name of the council was the Missouri Council on Women's Economic Development and Training (MCWEDT). The name was changed to the Missouri Women's Council in 1994.

It is the intent of the Missouri Women's Council to work closely with other agencies and community-based organizations to build awareness, educate, promote opportunities for, and enhance the lives and well being of Missouri women business owners and women in the workforce.

The Missouri Women's Council offers information and resources on starting your Own Business, Women in Business, Finding a Great Job, Upgrading Your Skills, and Obtaining State Contracts.

The Council is an agency within the Department of Economic Development. The bipartisan Council is comprised of 15 members: 11 appointed by the Governor, 2 Missouri State Senators, and 2 Missouri State Representatives with the chair appointed by the governor. An Executive Director is appointed to serve the Missouri Women's Council and the women of Missouri.

Follow us on Twitter!

@MOWomensCouncil

Missouri Women's Council's Women Owned Business (WOB) Network

Helping Women-Owned Businesses Succeed in Missouri

Becoming a member of the WOB Network can help women-owned business owners find and interact with each other, as well as highlight the goods and services their businesses provide. Register for free, online at www.wobnetwork.mo.gov

To subscribe or unsubscribe to the Women's Edition, please [click here](#).